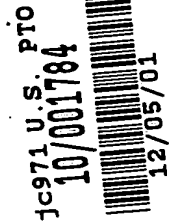


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re Patent Application of:)
 John T. Carroll, III et al.) Examiner: **unknown**
Serial No. **New Application**) Group Art Unit: **unknown**
Filed: **December 5, 2001**)
For: **Outwardly opening, Seat-Sealed, Force Balanced,**)
 Hydraulic Valve And Actuator Assembly)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

December 5, 2001

Sir:

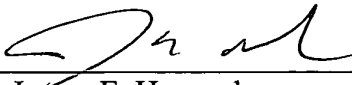
In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby submit the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of each of the documents cited is enclosed.

The documents are being submitted within three (3) months of the filing of this application or entry into the national stage of this application, or before the first Office Action on the merits, whichever is later, therefore no fee or certification is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

It is requested that the accompanying information disclosure statement be considered and made of record in the above-captioned application. To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees connected with this filing which may be required now, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-2380.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
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